

LEMBHARD G. HOWELL

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July 1, 2011

Mr. Tim Ceis
Washington State Redistricting Commission
1063 Capitol Way South, Suite 16
P.O. Box 40948
Olympia, WA 98504-0948

Re: Commission Hearing in Seattle

Members of the Redistricting Commission:

I appeared before the Commission when you held the June 13th hearing at North Seattle Community College. I pointed out the fact that the North Seattle hearing was the only one held in the City of Seattle, and that it was scheduled at the same time as the most important meeting of the year for the 37th legislative district. The 37th's majority population consists of people of color. This unfortunate situation, effectively excluded many persons of color from attending the redistricting Commission meeting.

Then, I asked that you consider holding another hearing in Central Seattle. Seattle is the most populous city in the state, so I think we rate another hearing. I hope that my request is still under active consideration. A hearing in South Seattle would also be acceptable. Prior to the North Seattle Community College hearing, it was explained to us that the hearing was scheduled without prior knowledge of the 37th District gathering. We had hoped that the Commission would be more sensitive to including the voices of communities of color in its deliberations. Given the significant population increases in our communities, a hearing in Central or South Seattle would certainly demonstrate an inclusive concern by the Commission.

I look forward to hearing from you about a new hearing in Seattle.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

The Law Offices of Lembhard G. Howell, P.S.


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Mr. Dean Foster
Washington State Redistricting Commission
1063 Capitol Way South, Suite 16
P.O. Box 40948
Olympia, WA 98504-0948

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Honorable Slade Gorton
Washington State Redistricting Commission
1063 Capitol Way South, Suite 16
P.O. Box 40948
Olympia, WA 98504-0948

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Mr. Tom Huff
Washington State Redistricting Commission
1063 Capitol Way South, Suite 16
P.O. Box 40948
Olympia, WA 98504-0948

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Ms. Lura Powell, Chair
Washington State Redistricting Commission
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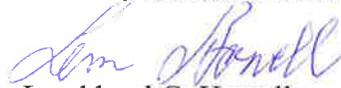
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